



4780 Bonair Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84117-5319  
(801) 278-6657

November 6, 1997

TO: DOGM - Attention: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer  
BLM - Dixie Attention: Larry Gore

FROM: John Welsh, Claimant

RE: 1) Place of reclamation North Shivwitz Project, S/053/015 (DOGM Ltr Sept. 15, 1995)  
2) Comments South Shivwitz Area S/053/008, Washington County, Utah

Purpose: Reclaimate areas to satisfactory condition by bulldozing and recontouring pits and cuts.

Before scheduling a contractor to do physical work on the N. Shivwitz project S/053/015, I wish to express my opinion as to how this may best be done to everyones satisfaction.

S/053/015 - I'll have all of the small trenches in the alluvium collapsed, and all the large cuts filled in and contoured. As little as possible of the pristine, original surface and vegetation will be disturbed. The major reclamation will be on the saddle within claim #15. All the recontouring was completed earlier in claim #17.

In claim #12, there was a naturally exposed gully of gypsum rock. This area was dozed off to expose a nearly complete section of the gypsum rock resource of the Permian Woods Ranch member of the Toroweap Formation (see enclosed photo). The completeness and geological detail of this present exposure warrants it being left as is, and not reburied by merely pushing talus across the surface. This is a rare accessible place where the gypsum rock resource may be studied, sampled, and described, it would be a poor decision to cover this exposure.

There is another interesting aspect to this south exposed gypsum rock surface. That is the flora which is reestablishing its presence on the gypsum rock at 4300 el. It is known that gypsum rock soils have specific, low species numbers of plants. Natural gypsum rock outcrops are rare, so this surface provides a small floral laboratory.

When limestone and dolomite talus overlies the Woods Ranch gypsum rock, a caliche layer parallel to the surface usually caps the gypsum rock, so there is no gypsum soil to allow plant diversification.

S/053/008 - Following an old 1950's uranium trail, an East facing gypsum rock gully was blasted and sampled at El. 4300, on claim #4, near the center of Sec. 14, T. 41 S., R. 18 W. Some rubble from the blast sill exists. This outcrop is also in the Woods Ranch member. This area will be left as it is. This natural and modified gypsum rock locality also is an opportunity to identify plant species tolerable to gypsumferous soils.





An interesting observation, besides the gypsum rock, in the NE Sec 14, is an abundant petrified wood locality in the Triassic.

If you concur that I need not reclaim and recover with soil the gypsum rock surface in claim #12, SW Sec. 3, T. 41 S., R. 18 W., I'll proceed to make arrangements to rehabilitate the other pits and prospects.

Regards,

*John E. Welsh*

John E. Welsh



**S/053/015** Gypsum rock exposure of Woods Ranch Member  
Shivwits Lode Claim #12, SW/4 Sec. 3, T. 41 S., R. 18 W.  
Washington county, Utah